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EXAMINER	
TSAY, MARSHA M	

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Commissioner for Patents

This is an Office communication to note that in the Office action of March 4, 2011, on page 3, the second paragraph inadvertently referred to the cited 103(a) reference, Williams et al. (US 20040086913), as "Kaufman et al.". The confusion was discussed in a telephonic interview with Applicant's representative on March 31, 2011.

Therefore, the March 4, 2011 Office action, on page 3, the second paragraph should read as:

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to detect colon cancer associated with expression of a nucleic acid in a test cell sample comprising detecting a level of expression of at least one identifying sequence which consists of 20 contiguous nucleotides from one of SEQ ID NOS: 1-316 and compare the expression level of the identifying sequence in the test sample with a level of expression of nucleic acid in a normal cell sample where an altered level of expression of said identifying sequence is indicative of colon cancer in the test cell sample, based on the teachings of Williams et al. (claims 31, 40). It should be noted that the positions 329-330 of instant SEQ ID NO: 15 and positions 188-189 of instant SEQ ID NO: 25 are the nucleotides "ga" and "gt" respectively. Therefore, an identifying sequence of 20 contiguous nucleotides from one of SEQ ID NOS: 1-316 of Williams et al. would include at least the nucleotides "ga" or "gt".

The original paragraph (lines 7, 10-11) inadvertently had the terms "Kaufman et al." and "indentifying" instead of "Williams et al." and "identifying."

/Marsha M. Tsay/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1656